

Upper Santa Margarita Watershed Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Grant Proposal Eligible Applicant Documentation

Attachment 2 consists of the following items:

✓ **Eligibility Statement**

Below is a statement explaining why the Rancho California Water District is an eligible applicant for an IRWM Planning Grant.

As described in Attachment 1, the Rancho California Water District (RCWD) is applying for this Planning Grant on behalf of the Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) of the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed (USMW) IRWM Program. RCWD is an eligible applicant as described below:

Local Agency and Statutory Authority

RCWD is a local agency as defined in Appendix B of the Proposition 84 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines. RCWD is a special district as defined within Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, and operates in a manner pursuant to the California Water Code.

Legal Authority to Enter into a Grant Agreement

RCWD has legal authority to enter into a grant agreement with the State of California. Per the adopted *Memorandum of Understanding to Conduct Integrated Regional Water Management Planning for the Upper Santa Margarita Watershed (MOU)*, the RWMG determined that RCWD shall have overall responsibility for submitting all applications to and entering into agreements with the State on behalf of the parties (refer to Attachment 1). The MOU authorizes RCWD's General Manager to execute grant agreements with the California Department of Water Resources.

Legal Agreements among Partners and/or Organizations for Performance of Proposal and Tracking of Funds

RCWD, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD), and County of Riverside (County) jointly developed and adopted the MOU (refer to Attachment 1). This MOU, which was adopted on August 31, 2010 and expires on December 31, 2015, replaces the original MOU (adopted in 2007), which expired on December 31, 2010. Section H of the updated MOU states that, "RCWD is willing to take the lead funding role in contracting for planning, making application(s) for funding and implementing funded efforts on behalf of Eastern Municipal Water District and Western Municipal Water District and the Planning Region." Further, Section 3 authorizes RCWD to "contract to disburse funds to designated partners or sub-grantees, and to make changes as needed to contracts or other documents to implement the IRWM process to the benefit of the Planning Region." A copy of the updated MOU is provided in Attachment 1.



**Planning Grant Proposal
Upper Santa Margarita Watershed IRWM Region**
